

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

TREASURY

USSAGE NKP

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

COGARD

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 180572

COGARD FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT:AUGUST 16 EA PRESS SUMMARY

INDOCHINA

1. IN FIRST PUBLIC STATEMENT SINCE PRES FORD TOOK OFFICE, VC DELEGATION TO STALLED PARIS POLITICAL TALKS ISSUES "SHARPLY WORDED" COMMUNIQUE CHARGING HIM WITH CARRYING ON NIXON'S POLICIES IN VN, AND ATTACKING PRES FOR CONTINUING AID TO GVN (NYT).

2. WAR VET CLUTCHING SVN FLAG BURNS SELF TO DEATH
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IN FRONT OF NATL ASSEMBLY BUILDING. POLICE SPOKESMAN SAYS IT WAS ANTI-COMMUNIST PROTEST (WP). SELF-IMMOLATION WAS SECOND BY VET IN SAIGON IN FIVE WEEKS. POLICE SAY ONE-LEGGED FATHER OF FIVE LEFT BEHIND 100-PAGE

NOTEBOOK CONTAINING NUMEROUS ANTI-COMMUNIST SLOGANS
AND LETTER TELLING CHILDREN TO WORK HARD IN SCHOOL
(AP, PHINQ).

3. SVN MIL SOURCE SAYS FIGHTING NORTH OF SAIGON
RAGES ON, ESTIMATES ATTACKERS AT THREE NVA BATTALIONS -
POSSIBLY OVER 1500 MEN (CSM). COMMUNIST TROOPS
ATTACK TWO POSITIONS 20 AND 45 MILES NORTH OF CAPITAL.

GVN COMMAND ESTIMATES 400 ENEMY KIA, MOST BY ARTILLERY
AND AIR (CHITRIB). MIL COMMAND SAYS BATTLE IS CLOSEST
MAJOR FIGHTING TO SAIGON IN TWO YEARS BUT CITY NOT
THREATENED (AP, NYPOST 8/15). GVN OFFICERS SAY
TANK-LED NVA ASSAULT OVERRUNS MILITIA POST 17 MILES
NORTH OF SAIGON BUT ENEMY DRIVEN OUT BY COUNTERATTACK
(WP). COMMAND SAYS COMMUNIST FORCES KNOCK OUT CONTROL
BUNKER OF MILITIA OUTPOST ON KHMER BORDER 45 MILES
NW OF CAPITAL (AP, SUN).

4. COMMUNIST GUNNERS LAUNCH HEAVIEST ATTACK-BY-
FIRE OF YEAR ON PP AS AT LEAST 35 ROCKETS HIT CITY
(CHITRIB). GKR COMMAND SAYS RECURRENT BARRAGES
OF ROCKETS ON CAPITAL'S OUTSKIRTS KILL 15, WOUND
40 (WP).

5. SCHANBERG (NYT) FROM PP WRITES OF THREE-MONTH-
OLD SIEGE OF KOMPONG SEILA, DUSTY TOWN 78 MILES
SW OF CAPITAL ON ROUTE 4. ORIGINAL 2000 DEFENDERS
REDUCED TO 500 EFFECTIVES BY WOUNDS AND MALARIA;
ESTIMATED 2-3000 CIVILIANS ALSO "DYING STEADILY"
AS INSURGENTS BOMBARD TOWN AT WILL. MEDEVAC IMPOSSIBLE,
SO MANY OF OVER 500 WOUNDED AND 300 DISABLED BY
MALARIA WILL DIE. GKR TRIED LAST MONTH TO BRING
IN HELICOPTERS AFTER T-28 STRIKES, BUT FIRST CHOPPER
TOOK HEAVY FIRE AND HAD TO FLEE. ROUTE 4 CUT FOR
MANY MONTHS WITH LITTLE PROSPECT OF REOPENING.
FANK COLUMNS "PRODDED BY THEIR AMERICAN BACKERS"
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TRY TO PUSH TOWARD KOMPONG SEILA, BUT BECAUSE REBELS
CONTROL PICH NIL PASS, 62 MILES FROM PP, "NO ONE
SERIOUSLY EXPECTS" RELIEF COLUMNS TO REACH TOWN.
MOST OPTIMISTIC HOPE IS TO DRAW ENEMY FORCES AWAY
TO ALLOW GARRISON TO ESCAPE, OR AT LEAST TO EVACUATE
WOUNDED.

MEANWHILE, KOMPONG SEILA LIVES ON SUPPLIES
PARADROPPED BY US PLANES FROM THAILAND AND KAF TRANSPORTS.
AIRCRAFT FLY HIGH TO AVOID FIRE AND SOME DROPS LAND
IN ENEMY HANDS; AMERICANS PUT SUCH LOSSES AT 15-
20 PERCENT, BUT OTHERS GUESS HIGHER. INSURGENTS
ALSO HAVE SERIOUS MALARIA PROBLEM, AND US AIR ATTACHE

SAYS EVERY GROUND ASSAULT HAS BEEN BEATEN BACK.
SCHANBERG DESCRIBES VIEW FROM 5000 FT, WHERE HORROR
OF SIEGE LOOKS LIKE "TOY WAR." FOREIGN OBSERVERS
IN PP WONDER WHY GARRISON DOESN'T SURRENDER; NO

ONE HAS ANSWER, BUT MAY BE PRIDE, SPIRIT OR FEAR
OF ENEMY. SOME WONDER WHY INSURGENTS DON'T OVERRUN
TOWN, BUT THIS MAY NOT BE EASY BECAUSE OF SURROUNDING
OPEN SPACES WHERE ATTACKS HAVE TAKEN HEAVY CASUALTIES.
SO REBELS REMAIN CONTENT TO BLEED GARRISON BY ATTRITION.

6. ON ANNIVERSARY OF "YEAR OF SURVIVAL" WITHOUT
USAF COMBAT INTERVENTION, MCCOMBS (WP) AT PP WITNESSES
MIL PARADE SINCE LON NOL DECLARED OCCASION AS KHMER
REPUBLIC'S FIRST ARMED FORCES DAY. MARSHAL GAVE
BRIEF FORMAL ADDRESS, REPEATED OFFER OF UNCONDITIONAL
NEGOTIATIONS. MCCOMBS DESCRIBES CROWDS, AWARDS,
AND OVERFLIGHTS OF T-28S -- "FAR CRY" FROM MASSED
POWER OF US JETS AND B-52S. RECALLS PESSIMISM AT
US BOMBING'S END WHEN JOURNALISTS GATHERED FOR "DEATH
WATCH"; DESCRIBES LAST B-52 RAIDS THAT BLUNTED INSURGENT
DRIVE ON PP; RECOUNTS SUCCEEDING OFFENSIVES AND
KHIEU SAMPHAN'S REJECTION OF OFFER TO NEGOTIATE.

MCCOMBS SAYS FIRST ARMS SHIPMENTS UNDER NEW
AID AGREEMENT WITH CHINA THOUGHT TO HAVE ARRIVED
IN COUNTRY. REPORTS AMB. DEAN'S DESIRE FOR PEACE
TALKS SINCE HE FEARS CONGRESS WILL BEGIN CUTTING
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AID AS IT HAS FOR SVN. SEES US GOAL AS SHOWING
INSURGENTS THEY CAN'T WIN BY FORCE AND SHOULD NEGOTIATE.
QUOTES "QUALIFIED OBSERVER" THAT FANK IS ;00-PERCENT
BETTER THAN YEAR AGO, BUT "STILL ... PRETTY AWFUL."
ESTIMATES FANK AT 250,000 WITH 80,000 GROUND COMBAT
EFFECTIVES; INSURGENTS AT 70,000 OF WHICH 60,000
ARE COMBAT TROOPS; NVA AT 20,000 WITH 16,000 ON
SVN BORDER AND 2-3000 ADVISERS TO "KHMER ROUGE."
CITES ONE OBSERVER'S STATEMENT THAT SINCE US STOPPED
BOMBING, GKR HAS HAD TO LEARN "HARD WAY" TO DEPEND
ON OWN RESOURCES, AND HAS LEARNED "PRETTY WELL."
SAYS CASUALTIES FOR BOTH SIDES OVER PAST YEAR BELIEVED
ABOUT EQUAL AT 18,000 KIA AND WIA. US PRESENCE
"PERVASIVE" IN UNIFORMS AND WEAPONS OF FANK, AND
US TRANSPORTS STILL MAKE DROPS AND JETS FLY RECON
MISSIONS, BUT KHMER DO FIGHTING. MCCOMBS BELIEVES THAT
WITH GREATER STRENGTH GKR APPEARS TO TAKE "MORE OPEN
VIEW" THAN IN PAST WHEN OFFICIAL LINE WAS THAT INSURGENCY
CAUSED BY NORTH VIETS.

KOREA

7. MRS. PARK'S SLAYER IDENTIFIED BY JAPANESE POLICE AS MUN SE KWANG, KOREAN LIVING IN OSAKA, AND SUSPECTED MEMBER OF ANTI-PARK YOUTH GROUP. MUN WAS SHOT BY SECURITY MEN AND HOSPITALIZED. SK NEWS MEDIA SAY HE CARRIED JAPANESE PASSPORT MADE OUT TO OSAKA TEXTILE WORKER, AND JAPANESE POLICE INVESTIGATE HOW HE OBTAINED IT (UPI, CHITRIB). AP (SEOUL) SAYS FUNERAL FOR MRS. PARK SET FOR MONDAY. ADDS THAT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT IS EXPECTED TO RESULT IN MORE SK REPRESSION ON BASIS OF INCREASED THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY -- PARTICULARLY IF GUNMAN IS FOUND TO BE COMMUNIST OR COMMUNIST SYMPATHIZER. KOREANS WHO HAD BEEN LIVING IN JAPAN BUT WERE IN SEOUL TO ATTEND INDEPENDENCE DAY CEREMONIES WERE REFUSED PERMISSION TO RETURN TO JAPAN -- APPARENTLY IN EFFORT TO DETERMINE IF THERE WAS PLOT AGAINST PARK AMONG KOREANS RESIDENT IN JAPAN (NYDN, SUN, BALTO N-A 8/15).

8. NYT'S HALLORAN, IN SEOUL, REPORTS ROKG DECLARED UNCLASSIFIED

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NATIONAL EMERGENCY SHORTLY AFTER MRS. PARK'S SLAYING, "BUT THAT MADE LITTLE REAL DIFFERENCE TO LIFE HERE," SINCE PARK HAS ASSUMED UNLIMITED POWERS IN RECENT MONTHS. SUGGESTS THAT FOR FUTURE THERE ARE QUESTIONS: PARK'S REACTION TO ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT; WHAT EFFECT WILL EVENT HAVE ON HIS POLICY OF SUPPRESSING ALL POLITICAL OPPOSITION; WITH ASSAILANT HAVING COME FROM JAPAN, WHAT WILL BE IMPACT ON SK-JAPANESE RELATIONS?

HALLORAN MAINTAINS THAT ANSWERS ARE IMPORTANT TO US, SINCE SECURITY OF US FORCES IN SK IS AFFECTED BY SEOUL'S POLITICAL STABILITY AND ITS RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORS, NOTABLY JAPAN. REPORTS MRS. PARK'S FUNERAL WILL BE NATIONAL EVENT HELD IN CAPITAL PLAZA; NO INVITATIONS WILL BE SENT FOREIGN DIGNITARIES, BUT DIPLOMATS IN SEOUL SAY SOME NATIONS MAY SEND REPRESENTATIVES ANYWAY.

9. WP'S OBERDORFER, IN SEOUL, REPORTS THAT WHILE THERE IS SHARP AND BITTER DIVISION THERE ON PARK, "THERE WAS VIRTUALLY UNIVERSAL ESTEEM FOR HIS WIFE." SHE WAS "COMPASSIONATE AND INTELLIGENT WOMAN WHO SOUGHT TO BE A SOUNDING BOARD FOR THE PROBLEMS OF

ORDINARY PEOPLE AND WAS CONSIDERED A HUMANIZING INFLUENCE ON HER OFTEN UNBENDING HUSBAND... HER DEATH CAST A PALL OF SORROW OVER A COUNTRY WHERE SHE WAS WIDELY ADMIRER, AND ADDED NEW IMponderables TO AN ALREADY TENSE INTERNAL SITUATION" (ALSO PHINQ).

10. LAT'S JAMESON (AUG. 15) REPORTS EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

WITH FORMIN KIM DONG JO AUG. 14. CITES KIM EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE US WILL NOT CUT MIL AID TO HIS COUNTRY. KIM SAID ROKG, IN RESPONSE TO US EMBASSY REQUEST, HAS DECLARED THAT NO POLITICAL PRISONERS EXIST IN SK. INSISTED OFFENDERS OF PARK DECREES ARE NOT BEING ARBITRARILY DETAINED BUT BEING TRIED THROUGH LEGAL PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATION OF SPECIFIC LAWS, ADDING THAT LAWS FORBIDDING POLITICAL DISSENT ARE SANCTIONED BY SK CONSTITUTION. JAMESON NOTES THAT AMEMBASSY ASKED ROKG OPINION ON ISSUE BECAUSE SECTION UNCLASSIFIED

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32 OF FAA BANS AID TO ANY COUNTRY WITH POLITICAL PRISONERS.

JAMESON REPORTS KIM RAISING QUESTION OF MOTIVE FOR US AID REDUCTION, ASKING, "DO THEY WANT TO GIVE A HARD TIME TO THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT BY WHICH...KOREA WOULD BECOME SOFTER AND INSECURE, WITH AN UNSTABLE GOVERNMENT?...AS A FRIEND, AS AN ALLY, WHY DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND KOREA IS UNDER THREAT OF NORTH KOREA? IT IS NOT ONLY A THREAT EXTERNALLY BUT ALSO INTERNALLY. DO YOU THINK KIM IL SUNG IS ONLY STICKING TO MILITARY ACTION AGAINST SOUTH KOREA? HE IS ALSO EXPECTING REVOLUTION AND INSTABILITY AND CONFUSION, AN UPRISING OF (SK) PEOPLE."

CITES KIM ACKNOWLEDGING THAT DIPLOMATS FROM FRANCE, BELGIUM, DENMARK AND ITALY HAVE EXPRESSED "THEIR CONCERN OVER CURRENT KOREAN DOMESTIC MATTERS." SWEDEN, WHICH ISSUED STATEMENT CRITICIZING KOREA, HAS NOT MADE OFFICIAL DIPLOMATIC PRESENTATION, KIM ADDED.

KIM SAID PARK IMPLEMENTED "REVITALIZING REFORMS" IN 1972 CONSTITUTION GIVING PRESIDENT SWEEPING POWERS BECAUSE COUNTRY NEEDED MORE "EFFICIENT" GOVT THAN IT HAD HAD IN PAST IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN HIGH RATE OF ECON GROWTH.

CHINA

11. WSJ SAYS PRC SIGHTS OIL BOOM. OFFICIALS TALK CONFIDENTLY OF DOUBLING OUTPUT SOON TO 100 MILLION TONS YEARLY, ALMOST 20 PERCENT OF US FLOW. PEKING COULD SELL MUCH TO JAPAN, PERMITTING BIGGER FOOD AND INDUSTRIAL IMPORTS. FORTY THOUSAND WORKERS DEVELOP NEW FIELDS UNDER SHALLOW NORTHERN WATERS; NO SIGN OF LETTING FOREIGN FIRMS IN.

12. WP'S HANDLER, IN RIO, REPORTS BRAZIL ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PRC THURSDAY, AFTER YEARS

OF MAINTAINING CORDIAL TIES WITH ROCG. PEKING RECOGNIZED
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AS "ONLY LEGAL" CHINA GOVT, AND GOB "TOOK NOTE"
OF PRC CLAIM THAT TAIWAN IS PART OF CHINA. SAYS
PRINCIPAL REASON FOR BRAZIL'S SWITCH IS COUNTRY'S
GROWING TRADE DEFICIT; WOULD SELL PRC MANUFACTURED
GOODS, INCLUDING EVENTUALLY SHIPS, WITH PRC SEEN
AS POSSIBLE SUPPLIER OF CRUDE OIL AND HIGH-GRADE
COAL.

13. AT UN, PRC DECLARES NON-PARTICIPATION IN SECURITY
COUNCIL RESOLUTION THAT DEPLORES KILLING AND WOUNDING
OF UN TROOPS IN CYPRUS. AMB. HUANGHUA REITERATED
PEKING'S OBJECTIONS TO UN INVOLVEMENT IN PEACE-KEEPING
OPERATIONS (REUTER).

JAPAN

14. ON 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF JAPAN'S SURRENDER, HIROHITO
LEADS TRIBUTE IN TOKYO TO 3.1 MILLION JAPANESE WHO
DIED IN WW-II (CHITRIB; NYT).

15. REUTER TOKYO REPORTS SIGNING OF JAPANESE-IRAQI
BILLION DOL AGREEMENT TO EXCHANGE JAPANESE CREDITS
FOR CRUDE OIL SUPPLY. IN ADDITION TO ASSISTANCE
IN PLANT CONSTRUCTION, JAPAN AGREES TO TRAIN IRAQI
TECHNICIANS AND ENGINEERS.

16. JAPANESE EXPORTS TOP 5 BILLION DOLS DURING
JULY; FIRST TIME IN NATION'S HISTORY. BUT THOUGH
EXPORTS INCREASED 56.1 PER CENT OVER SAME MONTH
LAST YEAR, IMPORTS UP 70.6 PER CENT. JAPAN HAS
RUN B/P DEFICIT FOR 17 CONSECUTIVE MONTHS, THOUGH
OVERALL POSITION IMPROVING. MOST ECONOMIC ANALYSTS
FEEL OVERALL BALANCE WILL MOVE TO SURPLUS IN NEXT
FEW MONTHS (JOC).

,7. JOC'S CULLISON, IN TOKYO, REPORTS FORESTRY
AND AGRICULTURE MINISTRY HAS DECIDED TO SEND TEAM
OF EXPERTS TO US ON FACTFINDING SURVEY ON PROSPECTS
OF AMERICA IMPOSING EXPORT RESTRICTIONS ON GRAIN.

18. JAPANESE FISHING COMPANIES ARE STUDYING FEASIBILITY
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OF EXPLOITING PLANKTON TO REPLACE WHALES AS FOOD
SOURCE. JAPANESE CHEMICAL LABORATORY RESEARCH SHOWS
ANTARCTIC PLANKTON ARE RICH IN VITAL AMINO ACID
TRYPTOPHAN. CLAIM BASIC PROTEIN CONTENT IN THEM

IS RICHER THAN BEEF. FISHING COMPANIES HAVE YET
TO DEVELOP COMMERCIALY FEASIBLE METHOD FOR HARVESTING
(BALT NA 8/5).

AUSTRALIA

19. GOA FLIES RUSSIAN VIOLINIST GEORGY ERMOLENKO
OUT IN AUSSIE AF JET, CONVINCED HE REALLY WANTED
TO RETURN (AP PHINQ, SUN; CHITRIB; CSM;NYT).

20. AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION ANNOUNCES GOVT WILL
HELP FINANCE REOPENING OF MARY KATHLEEN URANIUM
MINE, INVOLVING RUNNING OF AROUND 7,000 TONS OF
RELATIVELY LOW GRADE URANIUM (JOC).

FRENCH A-TEST

21. SUN'S PULLAN CITES AUSTRALIAN FOMIN WILLESEE
AS SOURCE OF REPORTS OF NEW FRENCH BLAST ON MURUROA.
WILLESSEE NOTED THAT ENVIRONMENT MINISTER CASS HAD
ALREADY ANNOUNCED DETECTION OF FALLOUT OVER WIDESPREAD
AREA OF AUSTRALIA. HE ALSO PROTESTED FRANCE'S "INFRINGEMENT
OF (AUSTRALIA'S) SOVEREIGNTY" AND DISREGARD FOR
INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE RULING TO DESIST
(UPI NYT, PHINQ, NYDN; WP). GOF AS USUAL, REFUSES
TO COMMENT (CHITRIB).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

KOREA

”
22. NYT CONCEDES THERE IS CONTINUING VALIDITY TO
CLOSE TIES AND INTERESTS WHICH US HAS MAINTAINED
WITH ROKG; POLITICAL STABILITY AND ECON DEVELO ENT
IN SK ARE IMPORTANT FEATURES OF OVER-ALL ASIAN SECURITY
SYSTEM. BUT SAYS THESE VALID INTERESTS ARE ILL-
PROTECTED BY REFUSAL OF US POLICYMAKERS TO CONFRONT
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, ECTED BY REFUSAL OF US POLICYMAKERS TO CONFRONT

QUESTION WHETHER PARK REGIME IS ANY LONGER CAPABLE
OF PROTECTING EITHER STABILITY OR DEVELOPMENT.

23. SUN BLAMES PARK FOR DEATH OF MRS. PARK, ADDING
THAT BY DENYING HIS PEOPLE MORE MODERATE FORMS OF
EXPRESSION, PARK REPRESSIONS HAVE NOT INSURED HIS
LIFE BUT IMPERILED IT. CONCLUDES THAT FIRST THING
PARK CAN DO TO COUNTERACT ATTEMPTS ON HIS PERSON
AND TO REDEEM IMMENSE US INVESTMENT IN HIS RULE
IS TO LET KOREANS SPEAK THEIR MINDS.

24. TUFT'S GREG HENDERSON EXPRESSES FEAR THAT ASSASSINATI ATTEMPT ON PARK "WILL ONLY BE THE BEGINNING." CITES UNANSWERED QUESTIONS, INCLUDING MYSTERIOUS IDENTITY OF ASSASSIN - REPORTEDLY KOREAN BEARING JAPANESE PASSPORT - AND REASON AN UNKNOWN, SEMI-FOREIGN FIGURE WAS PERMITTED TO ENTER "SELECT AUDIENCE UNDER CONDITIONS OF EXTREME SECURITY." HENDERSON SEES NEED FOR JAPANESE DIPLOMATS IN SEOUL TO HAVE FULL ACCESS TO ASSASSIN IN ORDER TO CLARIFY ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS, AND ENVISIONS ROKG USING INCIDENT TO REPUDIATE ALL "FOREIGN INFLUENCE" ON KOREAN "INTERNAL AFFAIRS." HENDERSON SAYS, "I TRUST...THAT CONGRESS, THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT, AND THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WILL DRAW FROM THIS SHOCKING EPISODE RENEWED DETERMINATION IN NO WAY TO SUPPORT - BY AID OR ANY OTHER INSTRUMENT - THE PRESENT KOREAN GOVERNMENT'S EXTREME REPRESSION WHICH EVOKES SUCH VIOLENCE" (CSM).

25. CSM VIEWS ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF PARK AS DEMONSTRATING HIS AUTHORITARIAN COURSE ONLY CREATES MORE AND MORE OPPOSITION, ENDANGERING BOTH HIMSELF AND HIS NATION. HIS BRUTAL POLICY IS NEEDLESS, UNJUSTIFIED, AND ABHORRENT. NOTES THAT PARK SEEMS NO LONGER TO CARE ABOUT WORLD OPINION, AND IT IS EVEN THOUGHT HE IS BEGINNING TO DISCOUNT US AID. SEES WASHINGTON FACING DILEMMA: IT IS RELUCTANT TO TAKE ANY ACTION, SUCH AS WITHDRAWAL OF SOME US TROOPS, WHICH MIGHT BE MISCONSTRUED IN NK AND PROVOKE UNCLASSIFIED

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RECKLESSNESS FROM LEADER KNOWN FOR IT. CSM SAYS WE ARE WITNESSING PHENOMENON OF MODERN AGE -- GROWING INABILITY OF BIG POWERS TO PREVENT UNDESIRABLE ACTIONS BY SMALLER POWERS; FACT THAT US SO OFTEN FINDS ITSELF IN POSITION OF SUPPORTING DICTATORIAL REGIMES AND JUSTIFYING ITS POSITION IS ONE OF HEAVY BURDENS OF US DIPLOMACY.

26. CSM'S POND, IN TOKYO, SAYS TRAGEDY OF SK TODAY IS THAT KOREAN BELIEVERS IN DEMOCRACY AND RIGHT OF FREE SPEECH SHOULD BE SO DEPRIVED OF PARTICIPATION IN THEIR GOVT - AND SUBJECTED TO DEATH PENALTY FOR PROTESTING THEIR LOSS. FURTHER TRAGEDY IS THAT GOVT REPRESSION AND RESULTING HOSTILITY TOWARD GOVT ARE SO UNNECESSARY. PARK PROVIDED STRONG LEADERSHIP, DEFENDED COUNTRY AGAINST NK, STOPPED FACTIONALISM, LED NATION INTO REMARKABLE "ECONOMIC MIRACLE," AND REOPENED CIVIL CONTACT WITH NK. BUT IN 1972, PARK SQUANDERED VOLUNTARY SUPPORT OF S. KOREANS - OR "90 PERCENT CONTROL," AS ONE FOREIGN DIPLOMAT TERMED IT - BY TRYING TO GRASP 100 PERCENT MONOPOLY OF POWER -REGARDLESS OF COST. PARK'S REPRESSIVE ACTS,

FAR FROM STIFLING WHAT LITTLE OPPOSITION THERE WAS, FANNED IT INTO REAL OPPOSITION AND ALIENATED AN IMPORTANT 13 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION -KOREA'S CONSERVATIVE CHRISTIANS. RESULT, DIPLOMATICALLY, IS SERIOUS STRAIN IN SK'S RELATIONS WITH ITS CLOSEST ALLY, JAPAN; AND RESULT DOMESTICALLY IS WIDESPREAD REVULSION OF S. KOREANS TOWARD THEIR GOVT.

27. CDN'S KEYES BEECH IN SEOUL (AUG. 13) CITES AMERICANS SAYING BEST WAY TO COPE WITH REGIME LIKE PARK'S IS QUIET, BEHIND-THE-SCENES DIPLOMACY. HOWEVER, NOTES PRIMIN KIM CHONG PIL DEMONSTRATING WHAT HE THOUGHT OF "QUIET DIPLOMACY" WHEN HE TOLD US NEWSMEN: "WE DO APPRECIATE ADVICE FROM OUR FRIENDS. HOWEVER, ADVICE HAS ITS LIMITS, AND WHEN IT EXCEEDS ITS LIMITS AND BECOMES INTERFERENCE, WE CANNOT BEAR IT"; NOTES ALSO THAT PARK REJECTED US APPEAL NOT TO INVOKE DEATH PENALTY AGAINST CRITICS OF HIS REGIME.

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SAYS PARK'S CONTEMPT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND HIS DEFIANCE OF US TO WHICH SK OWES ITS EXISTENCE MIGHT LEAD SOME OBSERVERS TO CONCLUDE PARK IS POWER-MADLUNATIC WHO LOST HIS MARBLES. TAKING CONTRARY VIEW, KEYES OBSERVES THAT 13 YEARS IN POWER HAVE SHARPENED PARK'S NATIVE SHREWDNESS, HIS SELF-CONFIDENCE INCREASING IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO SK'S GROWING ECON SELF-RELIANCE. CONTENTS, MOREOVER, THAT PARK HAS HAK IN HIS CORNER. HAK RECENTLY REMARKED THAT WHILE "WE WOULD NOT HAVE RECOMMENDED" SOME OF PARK'S ACTIONS, US WILL CONTINUE TO EXTEND SK AID BECAUSE, IN EFFECT, NATIONAL SELF-INTEREST TAKES PRECEDENT OVER HUMAN RIGHTS. ELABORATING ON HAK'S THEME IN TESTIMONY BEFORE TWO HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEES

NOTES ACTING EA ASST. SEC. HUMMEL, WHILE CRITICAL OF PARK'S PERFORMANCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS SAID: "IN OUR VIEW, THE PREVENTION OF WAR ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA IS THE FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT STEP TOWARD THE MAINTENANCE OF HUMAN LIBERTIES." KEYES VIEWS THIS AS "KIND OF MUSIC...PARK LIKES TO HEAR, FOR IT JUSTIFIES - IN HIS VIEW - POLICE STATE RULE" OVER S. KOREANS. NOTES ROKG PROPAGANDIZING "IMMINENCE" OF NK INVASION, BUT CITES US INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES THAT THREAT TODAY IS NO GREATER THAN IT EVER WAS AND EVEN LESS IN VIEW OF US DETENTE WITH PEKING AND MOSCOW.

AS MUCH AS PARK MAY BE DESPISED BY INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY, ACCORDING KEYES, FEW KOREANS WANT TO SEE HIM OVERTHROWN. THEY REALIZE THAT IN ABSENCE OF ORDERLY TRANSFER OF POWER, RESULT MIGHT WELL BE CHAOS - AND TEMPTATION FOR NK TO DO SOMETHING

RECKLESS; SOME OF PARK'S BITTEREST CRITICS GIVE HIM CREDIT FOR COUNTRY'S "ECONOMIC MIRACLE." WHAT RESPECTABLE KOREANS WANT IS RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL GOVT, OR, AS ONE PUT IT, "FOR HIM TO KNOCK OFF ABOUT 5 PERCENT OF WHAT HE IS DOING." KEYES SEES CHANCE OF THAT HAPPENING AS VIRTUALLY NIL. IF PARK DOES RETREAT, IT WILL BE ONLY TACTICAL MANEUVER; ANY BACKWARD MOVEMENT ON HIS PART WILL BE INTERPRETED BY HIS ENEMIES AS SIGN OF WEAKNESS. ASSERTS PARK KNOWS THIS ONLY TOO WELL, WHICH IS WHY HIS REGIME UNCLASSIFIED

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IS LIKELY TO BECOME MORE, RATHER THAN LESS, REPRESSIVE.

28. FROM TOKYO, GLOBE'S STORIN SEES THURSDAY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AS "ALMOST CERTAIN TO STRENGTHEN PARK'S REPRESSIVE GOVERNMENT." RECOUNTING COURTS-MARTIAL ORDERED BY PARK, STORIN OBSERVES PARK TACTICS PERPLEXING US DIPLOMATS AND SOURING US PUBLIC OPINION. NOTES ALSO DOS REITERATING PUBLIC DISAPPROVAL OF PARK TACTICS. REACTION FROM JAPAN HAS BEEN MORE SEVERE, SAYS STORIN. CITES DIPLOMATS THAT JAPANESE "TOOK VERY HARD" GROK WEDNESDAY ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT IS ENDING INVESTIGATION OF KIM DAE JUNG KIDNAPPING WITHOUT BRINGING ANY CHARGES. INFORMED SOURCES SAY GAIMUSHO HAS BEEN SPLIT BETWEEN THOSE EMOTIONALLY ANGERED BY KIM INCIDENT AND THOSE WHO FEEL STRONG ALLIANCE MUST BE RETAINED WITH ANTI-COMMUNIST S. KOREANS, REGARDLESS. ONE INFORMED DIPLOMAT SAID YESTERDAY THAT THOSE HOLDING INTELLECTUAL ARGUMENT ARE HAVING TOUGHER TIME.

STORIN SAYS IF ALLEGED PARK ASSAILANT DID INDEED TRAVEL TO SEOUL FROM JAPAN, SCENARIO DOUBLY SERVES PARK'S PURPOSES. HE CAN CITE INCIDENT AS KIND OF "EXTERNAL THREAT" UPON WHICH HE HAD JUSTIFIED HIS HARSH RULE, AND HE CAN PUT JAPAN ON DEFENSIVE BY CHARGING IT FANNED EMOTIONS OF ANTI-PARK FACTIONS AMONG KOREANS LIVING THERE. CONCLUDES THAT ALTHOUGH IN SHORT-RANGE VIEW ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT WILL LIKELY POLARIZE KOREA'S INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION, CONTINUING STRAIN IN RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND KOREA IS PROBABLY MORE IMPORTANT TO ANY LONG-RANGE VIEW OF WORLD POLITICS.

MALAYSIA

29. CSM ARTICLE DATED LINED SINGAPORE REPORTS MALAYSIA GOING TO POLLS AUG. 24 "IN WHAT COULD WELL BE A CRUCIAL GENERAL ELECTION." SAYS ITS IMPORTANCE LIES IN FACT THIS IS FIRST GENERAL ELECTION HELD SINCE SHORT BUT BLOODY COMMUNAL RIOTS AFTER MAY POLICY AIMED AT GIVING MALAY COMMUNITY GREATER SAY

IN WHAT UNTIL THEN HAD BEEN MAINLY CHINESE-DOMINATED
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ECONOMY. TO GREAT EXTENT, GOM HAS SUCCEEDED IN
ACHIEVING GOAL OF 30 PERCENT MALAY PARTICIPATION
IN ECONOMY INSIDE 20 YEARS. QUIET LEADERSHIP OF
RAZAK AND BOOMING ECONOMY CONTRIBUTED TO REDUCTION
OF INTERRACIAL TENSIONS. HOWEVER, GOVT POLICY MAKING
BAHASA MALAY OFFICIAL LANGUAGE COULD BE MATTER OF
INCREASED RESENTMENT AMONG NON-MALAYS IN YEARS TO
COME. ARTICLE ANTICIPATES LITTLE LIKELIHOOD OF
COMMUNAL TROUBLE IN AUG. 24 ELECTION; SAYS BIGGER
TEST WILL COME IN 1979 ELECTION WHEN MALAYSIANS
WILL BE BETTER ABLE TO JUDGE HOW FAR THEY HAVE GONE
TOWARD GOAL OF INTERRACIAL HARMONY.

CHINA

30. YALE PROF DAVID NELSON ROWE PRESENTS GROG CASE
BY WAY OF EXPRESSING CRITICISM OF BARNETT'S JULY
24 NYT ARTICLE("BUTTRESSING THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE")
THAT HAD ADVOCATED DE-EMPHASIS IN US-GROC RELATIONS
(SUN).

31. SPEAKING AT FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS' CLUB THURSDAY,
ROBERT SCALAPINO SUGGESTED THAT ALL-OUT SINO-SOVIET
WAR IS NOT IMMINENT, AND THERE IS POSSIBILITY OF

LIMITED RAPPROCHEMENT IN NEAR FUTURE. EXPLAINED
THAT SOVIET LEADERS HAVE REALIZED FULL-FLEDGED WAR
WITH CHINA IS NOT IN THEIR INTEREST, AND THEY ARE
NOW "HOPEFULLY AND WATCHFULLY WAITING"FOR CHANGE
IN PRC LEADERSHIP. PREDICTED POST-MAO PERIOD WILL
SEE LIMITED RAPPROCHEMENT BECAUSE SINO-SOVIET TENSION
HAS BEEN COSTLY TO CHINESE (AFP, WP).

PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

32. IN ITEM DATELINED MOUNT HAGEN, CSM'S SOUTHERLAND
REPORTS ON PROBLEM OF POLICING STONE AGE-STYLE WARRIORS
WHO PARTICIPATE IN CLAN FIGHTS USUALLY SPARKED BY
DISPUTES OVER LAND, WOMEN, AND PIGS - IN THAT ORDER.
SAYS CLAN WARFARE IS VIEWED BY PNG GOVT AS SERIOUS
PROBLEM, PARTICULARLY NOW THAT IS IS MOVING TOWARD
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FULL INDEPENDENCE. CITES GOVT-APPOINTED COMMITTEE
REPORTING YEAR AGO THAT FIGHTING IN HIGHLANDS HAS
INCREASED OVER PREVIOUS THREE YEARS. AMONG REASONS
COMMITTEE GAVE WERE: BELIEF AMONG HIGHLANDERS THAT

WITH INDEPENDENCE APPROACHING, THEY MUST CONSOLIDATE
THEIR POSITIONS BY GRABBING AS MUCH DISPUTED LAND
AS POSSIBLE; NEW METHODS OF CASH CROPPING WHICH
MAKE LAND MORE VALUABLE AND REQUIRE MORE DEFINITE
FIXING OF BOUNDARIES THAN WAS PREVIOUSLY CASE; AND
BREAKDOWN IN CLAN HIERARCHY, WITH YOUNG MEN IGNORING
TRADITIONAL FIGHT LEADERS AND CARRYING FEUDS TO
EXTREME. KISSINGER

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